

S E C R E T 310918Z MAR 75 STAFF

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TO: IMMEDIATE DIRECTOR.

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LAYTON FROM

1. MR. CARVER NEEDS GVN AND NVA/VC ORDER OF BATTLE INFORMATION BY OPENING OF BUSINESS SAIGON TIME 1 APRIL, TO BE USED IN WRITTEN REPORT OF WEYAND MISSION. TO EXTENT POSSIBLE, REQUEST YOU PROVIDE JOINT CIA/DIA DATA BUT, GIVEN TIME FACTOR, USE UNILATERAL CIA ESTIMATES (SO LABELLED) WHERE NECESSARY.

2. FOLLOWING SPECIFIC DATA NEEDED:

A. NVA/VC EFFECTIVE COMBAT REPEAT COMBAT FORCES IN SOUTH VIETNAM, BY MILITARY REGION AND WITH NATIONAL TOTALS, FOR 28 JAN 73, 1 MAR 75, AND 1 APR 75.

B. GVN EFFECTIVE COMBAT STRENGTHS, BY MILITARY REGION AND WITH NATIONAL TOTALS, FOR SAME THREE DATES. FOR EACH TIME PERIOD AND EACH MR, PLEASE INDICATE HOW MUCH OF TOTAL GVN COMBAT STRENGTH IS RF, AND HOW MUCH IS ARVN, MARINES, ETC. (INTENT IN REPORT OF WEYAND MISSION IS TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT NO COMPARISONS OF OPPDING FORCES ARE PARTICULARLY GOOD GIVEN PRESENTLY POOR DATA, BUT TO SHOW IN GENERAL HOW NVA/VC HAVE GROWN SINCE PARIS ACCORDS AND IN PAST ONE MONTH, AND ALSO TO SHOW THAT REGIONAL FORCES, WHICH HAVE NOT GIVEN PARTICULARLY GOOD ACCOUNT OF THEMSELVES IN RECENT BATTLES, CONSTITUTE A CONSIDERABLE PORTION OF GVN COMBAT STRENGTH.)

3. FOR PURPOSES OF COMPARISON WITH YOUR FIGURES, DIA HAS PROVIDED STATION WITH FOLLOWING DB FIGURES FOR 30 MAR 75 (DATA FOR EARLIER PERIODS NOT AVAILABLE HERE).

COMBAT STRENGTHS (EFFECTIVES)

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MR-1 GVN 4,500 NVA/VC 71,500
MR-2 GVN 7,000 NVA/VC 29,000
MR-3 GVN 32,200 NVA/VC 35,000
MR-4 GVN 15,500 NVA/VC 16,900

TOTALS (ROUNDED) GVN 59,000 NVA/VC 152,000

THESE FIGURES DO NOT INCLUDE RF STRENGTHS FOR THE GVN, AND ALSO INCLUDE ONLY THOSE GVN UNITS STILL CONSIDERED EFFECTIVE. IN MR-1, FOR EXAMPLE, THEY INCLUDE ONLY TWO BRIGADES OF MARINES, WITH A TOTAL STRENGTH OF 4,500 MEN. TO EXTENT POSSIBLE GIVEN TIME CONSTRAINT, PLEASE EXPLAIN ANY MAJOR DIFFERENCES BETWEEN YOUR FIGURES AND THOSE ABOVE, WHERE SUCH DIFFERENCES DO NOT RESULT FROM INCLUSION OF RF BATTALIONS IN GVN COMBAT STRENGTHS BY HEADQUARTERS.

4. APOLOGIZE FOR SHORT FUZE, AND OUR THANKS IN ADVANCE FOR ANY ASSISTANCE YOU CAN PROVIDE. E2 IMPDET

S E C R E T

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